

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/04951

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C02F1/467

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C02F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 524 475 B1 (CUSHMAN TIMOTHY A ET AL) 25 February 2003 (2003-02-25) column 9, line 39 - column 11, line 8; figure 1A	1-12
X	WO 00/51944 A (UNIV NORTHUMBRIA AT NEWCASTLE ; REED ROBERT HUNTER (GB)) 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) page 3, line 3 - page 4, line 20	1-12
A	US 5 795 459 A (SWEENEY CHARLES T) 18 August 1998 (1998-08-18) the whole document	1-12
A	US 6 296 756 B1 (HOUGH GARY S ET AL) 2 October 2001 (2001-10-02) the whole document	1-12
	----- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Liebig, T

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/04951

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 105 641 A (C F BURGESS LABORATORIES) 25 April 1917 (1917-04-25) the whole document -----	1-12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB 03/04951

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6524475	B1	25-02-2003	US 6261464 B1 AU 5165000 A WO 0071783 A1 US 6558537 B1 US 2002020675 A1	17-07-2001 12-12-2000 30-11-2000 06-05-2003 21-02-2002
WO 0051944	A	08-09-2000	AU 5174699 A EP 1086049 A1 WO 0051944 A1	21-09-2000 28-03-2001 08-09-2000
US 5795459	A	18-08-1998	AU 3494897 A CA 2233615 A1 EP 0880470 A1 JP 11512973 T WO 9804502 A1 US 5928490 A	20-02-1998 05-02-1998 02-12-1998 09-11-1999 05-02-1998 27-07-1999
US 6296756	B1	02-10-2001	AU 6373700 A CA 2384462 A1 EP 1218296 A1 WO 0117910 A1 US 2002046957 A1	10-04-2001 15-03-2001 03-07-2002 15-03-2001 25-04-2002
GB 105641	A	25-04-1917	FR 481877 A	